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(*b*) whether the Government have so far taken any decisions on the matter?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The Government have decided that it is unnecessary to instal a thermal station at Coimbatore as the expansion of the Madras and Madurai thermal stations which are inter-connected with the hydro-electric grid and the construction of Kundah and Periyar hydel projects would adequately serve the needs of any place within the hydro-electric grid."

Digging of wells by military personnel in Ramanathapuram district.

* 493 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a contingent of military personnel was despatched in 1952 to dig wells in Ramanathapuram district;

(*b*) if so, the number of wells dug, and the places where they were dug;

(*c*) the cost to State, of such wells;

(*d*) the number of servicemen so employed; and

(*e*) the cost to the State by the employment of this contingent?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) Sixteen wells were dug; one well in each of the following places :—

(1) Olagampatti.
(2) Ganapathipatti.
(3) Sadayampatti.
(4) K. Pudupatti.
(5) Karisalpatti.
(6) Piranpatti.
(7) Singampunari.
(8) Tiruppathur.
(9) Pillayarpatti.
(10) Thenkarai.
(11) N. Vairavanpatti.
(12) Aramanaipatti.
(13) S. Sevalpatti.
(14) Idayangundu (hamlet of Soorakudi).
(15) Kanadukathan.
(16) Mathur (hamlet of Viramathi).

"(c) The cost to the State Government on account of the deepening of the wells is Rs. 3,720-10-3.

"(d) There is no information with the Government on this point.

"(e) No cost has been incurred by this Government on account of the employment of the military contingent."

Lock-out in Bikkavole National Tobacco Company.

* 494 Q.—SRI G. LATCHANNA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been received by the Government regarding illegal lockout by the Management, Bikkavole National Tobacco Company, recently during the pendency of an appeal before the Labour Appellate Tribunal; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken so far?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

"(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government."

House-sites for Harijans in Krishna district.

* 495 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the number of proposals, withdrawing the acquisition of house-sites submitted by the District Welfare Officer, Krishna, after the issue of instructions by Government to the District Welfare Officers to acquire only dry lands for house-sites for Harijans?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO : " Five cases of withdrawals from acquisition were proposed by the Collector of Krishna after the Government issued instructions to the Collectors that wet lands should not be acquired for house-sites except when it becomes absolutely necessary."

Harijans working as Public Prosecutors.

* 496 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state (with reference to the reply given to the starred question No. 39, dated 13th March 1953)—

(a) whether any reservation is made for the appointment of Public Prosecutors for Harijans in the State;

(b) the number of Harijans now working as Public Prosecutors in the State; and

(c) the total number of Public Prosecutors in the State?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

"(b) There is no Harijan now working as Public Prosecutor in the State."